

REMARKS

Receipt of the office action mailed October 6, 2003 is acknowledged. Claims 1-9, and 11-15 are pending in the application. New claims 18-24 are submitted here with for consideration. Claims 12, 13 and 15 have been allowed. Claims 5, 7 and eight have been objected to. Claims numeral 1-4, 6, and 11 have been rejected as being anticipated by Stucky. Claim 9 has been rejected as being obvious over Stuckey in view of Rocher. In keeping with the foregoing amendments in the following argument, we consideration of the rejected claims and allowance of the newly submitted claims is respectfully requested.

The formalities identified by the examiner have been corrected.

In response to the objection to claim 5, claim 5 has been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of independent claim one. Accordingly, claim 5 is an allowable form.

In response to the objection to claim 7, claim 7 has been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of independent claim 1 and intervening claim 6. Accordingly, claim 7 is an allowable form. Claim 8 depends from claim 7, and therefore claim 8 is also in allowable form.

Applicant has corrected the informality in claim 14. Accordingly, claim 14 is an allowable form.

In response to the rejection of claim 1 as anticipated by Stucky, applicant has amended claim 1 to positively recite, in part, that at least one of a one-way check valve and a restrictor is disposed in flow communication with each of the first and second sides of the movable member. By comparison, as is plainly evident when viewing Fig. 2 or 3 of the reference, only a single restrictor 44 is provided on only a single side of the movable member. Accordingly, the anticipation rejection is overcome. Further, there would be no way to modify the reference to reach the claimed invention without using applicant's own

disclosure as a reference. Accordingly, there can be no prima facie case of obviousness, and claim 1 is an allowable form.

Claims 2-4, 6, and 9 all depend from claim 1. Accordingly, those claims are also in allowable form.

Applicant has amended claim 11 to positively recite, in part, an aircraft having landing gear which is raised and lowered by a hydraulic system including an actuator which is extendible and retractable to operate the landing gear, a selector valve selectively to supply pressurized fluid to first or second sides of a movable member, and wherein a valve is provided to permit exhausted fluid from at least one of the first and second sides of the movable member to augment the supplied fluid from the selector valve and thus be directed with the supplied fluid, to the second or first side respectively of the movable member. The valve includes a valve member and a piston disposed in a passage and biased in opposite directions by only a single spring such that the valve member is urged towards a valve seat and the piston is urged toward a stop, the valve member arranged to move off the valve seat in response fluid pressure increases at an inlet in a valve body, the piston movable away from the stop in response to a pilot pressure delivered to a pilot pressure port of the valve body to a position in the passage in which the piston engages the valve member and restrains the valve member against movement off the valve seat in response to the inlet pressure.

By comparison, the Stucky reference, either taken alone or in combination with the French reference, does not disclose or even suggest the valve having the claimed features, and plainly does not use only a single spring to alter or otherwise affect the relative positions of the movable member and/or the piston. Accordingly, the rejection is overcome in claim 11 is an allowable form.

Applicant submits herewith for consideration the new claim 18. New claim 18 relates to a hydraulic system for raising and lowering aircraft landing gear and positively recites a

valve member and a piston each received in a passage in a valve body, a spring disposed to engage the valve member and the piston apart such that the valve member is urged towards a valve seat disposed adjacent a first end of the passage and the piston is urged toward a stop disposed adjacent a second end of the passage, and a fluid inlet and a fluid outlet. The valve member is arranged to move off the valve seat in response to sufficient fluid pressure at the inlet to permit fluid flow from the inlet, past the valve seat, to the outlet, and the piston is movable against the force of the spring away from the stop in response to a pilot pressure delivered to a pilot pressure port of the valve body to a position in the passage in which the piston engages the valve member and restrains the valve member against movement off the valve seat in response to the inlet pressure. An actuator is extendable and retractable to operate the landing gear, with the actuator including a movable member disposed in a casing, the movable member movable relative to the casing in a first direction to extend the actuator when pressurized fluid is supplied to a first side of the movable member and exhausted from a second side of the movable member, the movable member movable in a second direction to retract the actuator when pressurized fluid is supplied to the second side of the movable member and exhausted from the first side of the movable member. A selector valve is arranged to supply pressurized fluid to a selected one of the first side and the second side of the movable member, and the valve is arranged to permit exhausted fluid from at least one of the first and second sides of the movable member to augment the fluid supplied from the selector valve and thus be directed with the supplied fluid, to the second or first side, respectively, of the movable member.

New claim 18 is not disclosed or even suggested by any of the cited references, either alone or in any properly combinable combination. Accordingly, new claim 18 is an allowable form.

New claims 19-24 depend from claim 18. Accordingly, new claims 19-24 are also in allowable form.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Dated: February 6, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

David C. Read

Registration No.: 39,811
MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 6300
Sears Tower
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6357
(312) 474-6300
Attorney for Applicant